

well. The reliability of the hardware, the apparent superiority of computer interactive video delivery modes, the importance of high quality video and software, and the ability to offer a wide range of courses to individuals and small groups of learners are all directly relatable to non-military sectors. Even the importance of support from the ship's command structure has its parallel in non-military applications. For all except the most highly self-motivated, self-disciplined individual, support from one's peers and one's institution is extremely important in the educational process. This is true in both military and non-military instruction and education.

Recently, the University of Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation initiated a pilot project to extend the Navy project technology to the physically handicapped. This project, supported by both the Annenberg CPB Project and the Kellogg Foundation will use the hardware and much of the same courseware developed for the Navy to provide University of Oklahoma courses to the physically handicapped at four different sites around the state. Each site will be linked to the office of the professors at the main campus in Norman. Electronic Mail will be used to send messages, homework, and graded materials between the professors and the students. Rehabilitation specialists at each of the four sites will manage the program as part of the rehabilitation process and are expected to provide both emotional and administrative support comparable to that provided by the Education Officer aboard ships.

Implications For The Future

The Navy project is one of a number of recent projects utilizing technology to extend education beyond the walls of traditional classrooms. It and related projects are no longer R & D efforts but are beginning to serve thousands of students. Naiman reports that in a New York State project using computers and telecommunications, hearing impaired students have improved reading and writing style skills dramatically. In Minnesota, W. and K. Kitchen report on the use of two-way interactive television as a means of broadening the variety of programs available to students through-

out the state. A wide variety of pilot projects utilizing some combination of video, computers, and telecommunications are underway in virtually every state. While most of these are still small and experimental, there appear to be more successes than failures. Most importantly, many of these projects, like the Navy project, are now moving beyond the laboratory stage and are being used to deliver both training and formal education to large numbers of non-traditional students.

The prospects for this trend are best summarized in the recent Federal Office of Technology Assessment Study of *Technology and the American Economic Transition*,

"Technology has created an unprecedented power to bring practical problems into the classroom environment, adapt instruction to individual needs, and integrate teaching and learning into the work environment so that information and instruction are available when and where it is most essential. Taken together, the need for change and the power of the new

technology can reshape the way instruction is delivered, where it is delivered, and when it is delivered in a person's career."

The experience of the Navy would suggest that we are at the point where it is no longer enough to view instructional technology as a potential solution to tomorrow's professional development needs. It is today's reality and it works. AAACE

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Humor

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luck could focus on the sure signs that you've hit rock bottom when:

- the only compliments you ever get are from your mother.
- or
- Your ex-husband invites you to his wedding—and you go.

Aspiration. Using humor in adult education is more aspiration than style, which is to say that a continuing commitment to using it is of the utmost importance. Teachers aspiring to use humor, record, remember, and often recount funnies from their daily experiences. From regular use, they develop a broad repertoire, confidence, a good sense of timing, and sensitivity to people's feelings. Equally important is their encouragement for others to use humor. Business consultant Walter Kiechel says, "Indicate the slight willingness to laugh and jokes will walk right up to you, delivered by subordinates, peers or even the boss. Look for it and expect it" (Kiechel, 1983). AAACE

